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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
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The Honorable  
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Central Intelligence Agency

  
Edward R. Murrow

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The indication from USIA's latest June 1962 survey of West European public opinion is that even before the current large-scale Soviet bomb test the U. S. is predominantly seen as inferior to the Soviet Union in nuclear weapons.

The question was phrased as a comparison between the anti-Communist and Communist countries which, it may be surmised, makes the results even less favorable to the U. S. than indicated since British nuclear strength is thus added to the Western balance without any comparable addition to Soviet strength.

"How about military strength in nuclear weapons, are the anti-Communist or Communist countries ahead in nuclear weapons at the present time?"

No. of cases	Great Britain	West Germany	France	Italy
	June '62 (647)	June '62 (620)	June '62 (615)	June '62 (672)
Anti-Communist countries	26%	32%	12%	23%
Communist countries	42	25	48	38
Neither	7	20	14	5
No opinion	25	23	26	34
	100%	100%	100%	100%
Net Favorable	-16	7	-36	-15

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The anti-Communist position (and thus by inference U. S. standing) improves among those willing to forecast comparative nuclear strength ten years hence, but still attains a substantial favorable predominance only in West Germany.

"And which is likely /the anti-Communist or Communist countries/ to be ahead in nuclear weapons 10 years hence?"

No. of cases	Great Britain	Germany	France	Italy
	June '62 (647)	June '62 (620)	June '62 (615)	June '62 (672)
Anti-Communist countries	29%	37%	13%	21%
Communist countries	24	10	16	19
Neither	9	14	15	5
No opinion	38	39	56	55
	100%	100%	100%	100%
Net Favorable	5	37	-3	2

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JUN 14 5 32 PM '65  
JUN 15 10 24 AM '65  
JUN 16 10 56 AM '65